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turbed, seeks a shelter or mimics death. Its larva is covered with hairs, the body ending in a pencil of them. The *Attagenus pellio* is a smaller black beetle, with two dots on the wing-covers. Its larva is slenderer and proportionally longer, while the reddish-brown hairs lie closer to the body, so as to make it glisten in the light. We have found the larva of an allied beetle, but nearly twice as large as that of *D. lardarius*, crawling up the side of an out-house.

Anthrenus musæorum (Fig. 1; *a*, larva; *b*, pupa; much enlarged) is a smaller beetle, covered with transverse wavy bands of irregular spots. Its larva is short and thick, with long bristles, which are largest and thickest at the end of the body. The pupa transforms beneath the larva skin during the summer. Two or three other species are found in museums. Among them is *Ptinus fur*, which is figured on page 165 of the present volume of the NATURALIST, of which we here figure the larva (Fig. 2), which was found with the beetles in dead and dried snail-shells, in the Museum of the Peabody Academy. They may be killed like the Clothes-moth, also found in museums, by saturating the specimen attacked by them with benzine. To prevent their attacks, they should be kept out of collections by keeping benzine in constant evaporation in open vessels. Camphor and turpentine and creosote are also very useful. Zoölogical specimens recently prepared should be placed in quarantine, so we may be sure none of the museum pests will be introduced into the drawers or cases of the cabinet while either in the egg or larva state. Their presence in cabinets may be detected by the dust they make falling on the white surface beneath. Specimens thoroughly impregnated with carbolic acid, or arsenic, or corrosive sublimate, will not be attacked by them.

Fig. 1.

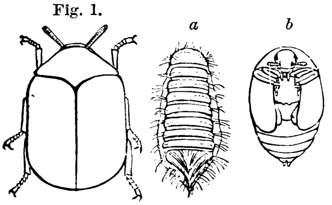
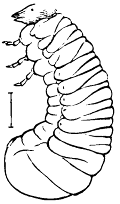


Fig. 2



GEOLOGY.

ANTIQUITY OF MAN.—In regard to the alleged discovery of human bones in the coral formation of Florida (see NATURALIST, Vol. II, p. 386), and which was first published by Professor Agassiz in Nott & Gliddon's "Types of Mankind" (eighth edition, p. 352), and has appeared in other works, including Lyell's "Antiquity of Man," we beg to give our readers the following statement in his own words, by Count L. F. Pourtales, the original discoverer of these bones: "The human jaw and other bones, found in Florida by myself in 1848, were not in a coral formation, but in a fresh-water sandstone on the shore of Lake Monroe, associated with fresh-water shells of species still living in the lake (*Paludina, Ampullaria, etc.*). No date can be assigned to the formation of that deposit, at least from present observation."